



# The Toni Times

FROM THE DESK OF  
COUNCILMEMBER TONI ATKINS

APRIL 2008

## THE FUTURE OF BALBOA PARK

*Public workshops to be sponsored by the Balboa Park Committee*



On March 8, 2008, the Balboa Park Committee hosted a workshop to discuss the future of Balboa Park. The workshop was a kick-off to a series of meetings to be held over the next six months to develop a plan on how best to sustain and govern this precious and beloved resource. Over 160 individuals representing the general public, Balboa Park institutions and user groups attended the meeting held at the Balboa Park Recital Hall. Both Mayor Sanders and I had the honor of opening the meeting, then turned it over to a panel of park experts that explained reports that examined the park's visitors surveys, current infrastructure needs and an analysis of governance structures. The report *The Soul of San Diego: Keeping Balboa Park Magnificent in its Second Century* included data on visitor satisfaction of the park, reviewed many of the capital improvements and deferred maintenance of the park and offered insights of how other parks in the country have overcome fiscal and operational challenges. After the presentation, panelists heard two hours of public testimony. The program was recorded by City TV and can be viewed on the [www.sandiego.gov](http://www.sandiego.gov) website.

For more information on upcoming meetings or to view the report, please visit [www.balboapark.org](http://www.balboapark.org) , or contact Vicki Granowitz, Chair of the committee at 619-584-1203. Ms. Granowitz can also take your comments if you cannot attend a future meeting.

## CITY INCREASES STREET SWEEPING TO IMPROVE WATER QUALITY

On Monday, February 25, Mayor Jerry Sanders announced that the City will be stepping up its street sweeping efforts to help reduce pollution entering Chollas Creek. This effort is the centerpiece of a pilot study that will provide more frequent street sweeping in the developed areas of our City that drain into the creek. The study is intended to run for the next 24 months.

The program will begin on April 1, 2008 and will include the communities of Greater North Park, Normal Heights, Kensington-Talmadge, City Heights, Logan Heights, and Memorial.

The goal of this program is to prevent pollution in our City's storm drain system.

Keeping our storm water drainage system free of pollutants is an important effort for all of us. We need to do our part – making sure that we don't allow automotive fluids, pet waste or other contaminants to



wash into the gutters near our homes. We also need to pay attention to the new street sweeping schedules that will be coming with this pilot study.

Many of the neighborhoods included in the pilot study will see new sweeping routes and much more frequent sweeping of their streets. There will be new parking restrictions for the hours when sweeping will occur. There will be ads in community newspapers and door hangers as we draw closer to the start date.

You may view the fact sheet and maps regarding the pilot study by visiting:

<http://www.sandiego.gov/mayor/pdf/080228fs.pdf>

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact the Public Information Officer for this project, Jennifer Nichols Kearns at 619-525-8606.

## MTS SET RIDERSHIP RECORDS IN 2007

Ridership is up! The Metropolitan Transit System (MTS) set a record increased us by almost 6%—averaging over 265,000 daily weekday trips for the calendar year. Service to special events has contributed to the increase with spectators taking the trolley and bus to Charger and Padres games and other events such as the Comic-Con, Holiday and Poinsettia Bowls and SDSU Aztec games.

MTS also attributes the increase in ridership to a more sensitive understanding about the impact of climate change and reducing use of the



automobile. Using a low-carbon emitting compressed natural gas (CNG) powered bus or an all-electric trolley is friendlier to the environment. MTS will continue to

provide a “greener” alternative for transportation. The MTS board recently approved a new contract to add up to 50 new CNG buses to be delivered in the next five years, and for the first time, they will take delivery on the region's first gas/hybrid buses this fall. MTS is also working with Balboa Park in a

project to encourage more transit use to activities in the park.

## SAVE THE DATE! STATE OF THE DISTRICT ADDRESS

You are invited to the Council District State of the District Address on Thursday, April 24<sup>th</sup> at the War Memorial building, 3325 Zoo Drive, in Balboa Park. Doors will open at 6:00 p.m., and the program will begin promptly at 6:30 p.m.

This event will give me an opportunity to review all that we have accomplished together during my second term, and will allow me to share what we hope to accomplish in the time remaining. I hope you'll be able to join us!



## NORTH PARK PUBLIC SAFETY MEETING

On March 5, 2008, I was pleased to be joined by Police Chief Lansdowne, Assistant Chief Boyd Long, new Western Division Captain Bill Edwards as well as other members of Western Division Command at a public safety meeting located at the North Park Recreation Center. The meeting was a wonderful opportunity for residents, who are concerned about crime issues in the area, to learn more about public safety efforts in North Park. Issues ranged from lighting, reporting suspicious activity, nuisance properties, setting up Neighborhood Watch and gang activity. In addition, residents were reminded safety tips—to lock windows and doors, protect their cars by keeping valuables out of sight, and walking in well lit areas. I wanted to personally thank all of the residents who attended the meeting. Your participation is extremely important as we continue to work together to keep our neighborhoods safe.



## STRUCTURAL BUDGET DEFICIT REQUIRES LONG TERM SOLUTIONS

The City Council's Independent Budget Analyst, Andrea Tevlin, recently issued a report raising concerns that the City has what is called a structural deficit. A structural deficit is a systemic problem of expenditures outstripping revenues over an extended period of time. This is to be distinguished from a regular deficit in the annual budget which is an occasional shortfall due to short term revenue reductions or significant unanticipated expenditures. A regular deficit is most often dealt with through temporary actions, such as delaying an expenditure or using one-time funding. Applying these remedies to a structural deficit can be a prescription for financial trouble, however, as delayed projects become due, one-time revenues disappear, and municipal services erode. As the IBA says, "structural deficits require structural solutions." You can read her entire report, #08-14, at <http://www.sandiego.gov/iba/documents/reports.shtml>.

The City of San Diego has had to make cuts to balance the budget every year since 2003, even during strong economic times. Most often, the gaps have been filled with one-time revenue sources such as loan repayments or transfers between funds -- which is essentially robbing Peter to pay Paul -- rebates, and use of reserves. In addition, services have sometimes been reduced in order to rein in costs. Yet, when the next year rolls around, we are once again short of funds, are not in a position to restore programs that were cut and have to find other solutions.



Why is this important? The IBA's report details some of the areas in which budget reductions have been made in past years and never restored. These reductions include fewer operating hours at recreation centers and libraries; closing of certain pools, after-school sites, Community Service Centers and police storefronts; reductions in civilian administrative support staff in the Police Department and cutbacks to maintenance. And, of course, few new or enhanced services have been offered. And while the Fiscal Year 2008 budget developed by the Mayor and adopted by the Council a year ago contained no further reductions, it was also unable to restore many of the cutbacks of the past. An "Unfunded Needs" report released by the City Manager in 2004 noted that general City programs required an additional \$149 million for to address backlogs and maintain services, while the Police and Fire-Rescue departments needed an additional \$125 million. Without corrective action, not only will

these needs continue to be unmet, but the size of the deficit and the backlogs will continue to grow, requiring even more service reductions. Increasing efficiency alone cannot close the gap.

A prime reason for a structural deficit is increasing programs and services without increasing revenue. For the past fifteen years, the City has become increasingly dependent upon just a few sources of revenue, most importantly property and sales taxes, both of which are extraordinarily sensitive to economic downturns. Diversifying our income can help buffer the impact a shortfall in any single area. For example, the Budget Committee recently asked the City Auditor to do an assessment of all programs supported by user fees to ensure that we are fully recovering the costs of providing those activities.

We also have to decide as a community which City services are important to us and which we are willing to pay for, either through fees or by reducing other services to free up funding. We must be honest with ourselves about the tradeoffs. Our City budget should reflect our priorities and be based upon a well-thought out plan.

The Mayor's proposed FY 09 budget, which he will release on April 15, will contain information about current service levels for most of the City's activities. I encourage each of you to carefully review both the historical and the proposed service levels and decide if they match your vision for our City. Attend budget hearings, which will begin with a nighttime meeting about Parks and Recreation and Libraries on April 30, and let the Council know what you think. But please remember, if we are to beat this structural deficit, we cannot continue to increase services without identifying the money that will pay for those services for the long haul.





CITY HEIGHTS  
TOWN COUNCIL, INC.

CAREY CONSTRUCTION  
AND DESIGN

SAN DIEGO CANYONS  
CAMPAIGN



**SATURDAY, MAY 3RD 2008**  
**9:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

**Swan Canyon, City Heights**  
2807 Fairmount Ave., San Diego, CA 92015

**SABADO, 3 DE MAYO 2008**  
**9:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

**Swan Canyon, City Heights**  
2807 Fairmount Ave., San Diego, CA 92015

**JOIN VOLUNTEERS** on a mission possible to save the unique habitat of City Heights' Swan Canyon!

Kids and adults become avengers as they take part in the largest volunteer event of its kind.

- Plant native species and remove invasive plants and trash for the benefit of wildlife, water, habitats and humans.
- Join kids in canyons and participate in an interactive tour to learn the importance of wetland habitat.
- Create a school garden and trails so that everyone can enjoy nature in their neighborhood.
- Enjoy activities, music and a free raffle.
- Register in advance to receive a free t-shirt and lunch.

**REGISTER WITH AQUATIC ADVENTURES:**  
elizabethhorpedahl@aquaticadventures.org  
858-488-3849

**¡ÚNETE A LOS VOLUNTARIOS** para una misión posible para salvar el hábitat especial de Swan Canyon en City Heights!

Niños y Adultos se convierten en agentes secretos al participar en este gran evento.

- Planta especies nativas y remueve plantas invasivas y basura para el beneficio de fauna, agua, hábitats y humanos.
- Únete con niños en cañones y participa en una gira interactiva para aprender sobre la importancia de hábitat humedal.
- Crea un jardín y sustantivos para que todos pueden disfrutar la naturaleza en su vecindad.
- Disfruta actividades, música y una rifa gratis.
- Inscríbete con anticipación para recibir una camiseta y pizza gratis.

**INSCRÍBETE CON AQUATIC ADVENTURES**  
elizabethhorpedahl@aquaticadventures.org  
858-488-3849

## PROTECT YOUR HOME FROM LEAD PAINT HAZARDS

According to the San Diego County Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (CLPPP), *“leaded house paint is the leading source of lead exposure both nationwide and within San Diego.”*

On March 11, 2008, the San Diego City Council approved an ordinance to prevent lead poisoning through lead-safe housing and lead-safe work practices. Preventing lead poisoning will result in significant financial benefits, including savings in medical costs, special education costs, and juvenile justice costs. The ordinance includes five key requirements intended to prevent lead poisoning:

1. Requiring renovators to use lead-safe work practices when disturbing lead paint on pre-1979 housing and other structures;
2. Requiring property owners to correct lead hazards in pre-1979 housing after notice of the lead hazard;
3. Requiring property owners to perform visual inspection and correction of presumed lead hazards prior to re-occupancy of a vacant rental unit;
4. Requiring home improvement/water pressure equipment rental stores to make available lead education material to customers; and
5. Requiring that childcare facilities obtain proof of blood lead testing at enrollment.

### ***Where is lead found?***

Many homes and apartments built before 1978 have lead-based paint. The federal government banned lead-based paint from housing in 1978.

### ***How do I know if the lead in my paint is hazardous?***

Lead-based paint is usually not a hazard if it is in good condition, and is not on an impact or friction surface like a window. Lead-based paint becomes a hazard when as it deteriorates (peels, chips, chalks, cracks or is damaged) or when lead dust forms from bumping or rubbing painted surfaces. Lead from paint chips, which you can see, and lead dust which you can't always see, can both be serious. Common places to find paint chips are windows, doors, stairs, railings, banisters, and porches. Lead dust can get on surfaces that people touch and can re-enter the air when people vacuum, sweep, or walk through a room. Finally, lead can also be found in soil, which can enter the house on shoes.

### ***What are the effects of lead poisoning?***

While low levels of lead exposure is most common in children, exposure to high levels can have devastating effects such as, seizures, unconsciousness, and in some cases death. Low levels of lead exposure in children can cause:

- Nervous system and kidney damage
- Learning disabilities, attention deficit disorder, and decreased intelligence
- Speech, language, and behavior problems
- Poor muscle coordination
- Decreased muscle and bone growth
- Hearing damage



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***How do I know if my child has been poisoned by lead?***

Lead consumption is measured in micrograms and even minimal amounts (10 micrograms per deciliter) can have harmful side effects on children's learning a behavior.

You can take steps to prevent lead poisoning in your home and you can have your child tested. All children under the age of six should have a blood level test.

The following agencies provide useful information on lead based paint hazards, where the have your child tested, and tips for detecting lead in the home. Program such as the "Stop Childhood Lead Poisoning Program" help lower income families test for lead paint hazards in the home and remove any damaged lead based paint found after an inspection.

For more information on the Stop Childhood Lead Poisoning Program, contact the:

Environmental Health Coalition  
401 Mile of Cars Way, Suite 301  
National City, CA 91950  
(619) 474-0220  
[www.environmentalhealth.org](http://www.environmentalhealth.org)



For additional information contact:

City of San Diego, Environmental Services  
Department 9601 Ridgehaven Court  
San Diego, CA 92123  
(858) 694-7000

San Diego Housing Commission  
1122 Broadway, Suite 300  
San Diego, CA 92101  
(619) 578-7521

County of San Diego  
Health and Human Services Agency  
County of San Diego  
1700 Pacific Highway, Rm. 320  
San Diego, CA 92101  
(619) 515-6694

## UPCOMING EVENTS IN GOLDEN HILL

The Greater Golden Hill Community Development Committee (GGHCDC) has a ton of fun events planned throughout the next few months for our community to enjoy! On Tuesday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, the GGHCDC is holding their 3<sup>rd</sup> Business Mixer at The Grove (3010 Juniper Street), beginning at 6pm. The GGHCDC is also hosting their monthly My BookClub Meeting at Rebecca's Coffeehouse (Fern & Juniper) at 7pm on Tuesday, April 29<sup>th</sup> and the Summer Kick-Off Gala on Friday, June 6<sup>th</sup>, at the Old Firehouse (30<sup>th</sup> & Juniper), beginning at 6:30pm. The South Park Business Group will be holding their 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Old House Fair on Saturday, June 21<sup>st</sup>, from 10am-4pm, at 30<sup>th</sup> & Beech Streets. I am really looking forward to all of these upcoming events and hope to see you all out there enjoying all of the wonderful attributes our community has to offer!



## STREET MAINTENANCE UPDATE

### *Upcoming slurry sealing for District Three Streets*



On March 4, 2008, the City Council approved a \$7.89 million citywide contract for slurry seal street maintenance as part of its ongoing street repair program. As part of the contract, 9.2 miles or 48,576 linear feet of slurry seal is planned for streets in Council District 3. There will be two additional asphalt resurfacing contracts coming soon that will result in more street repairs in the near future. This new contract and the two upcoming contracts reflect the City's commitment to add additional resources towards much needed street maintenance and repairs.

As part of the current slurry seal project a good portion of Fairmount Park will be slurry sealed. Street Division staff has indicated that the contract work should reach Fairmount Park by June/July 2008. Residents will be notified 2 days in advance with door hanger notices and should make arrangements to park their cars away from the work areas the night before work commences.

Three Balboa Park parking lots will also be resurfaced in the near future! The upper and lower Inspiration Point parking lots and the lot immediately west of Park Boulevard and Presidents Way, the Federal Building lot, will be included. Park organizations will be alerted by City staff well in advance of the parking lot repairs.

## GET INVOLVED IN THE UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS COMMUNITY PLAN UPDATE



University Heights and has developed a University Heights Community Plan Update Committee (UHCPUC) to work on the upcoming Uptown Community Plan Update. This new committee meets during

the last Thursday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at the Birney Elementary School Auditorium, located at 4345 Campus Avenue. University Heights' current community plan was last updated in 1988. If you would like to be added to the UHCPUC's e-mail list, please feel free to e-mail them at [info@uhsd.org](mailto:info@uhsd.org). The UHCPUC would like as many community members' input as possible in updating the community's new plan and would love for you to attend a few of their monthly meetings.

## HILLCREST CLEAN T.E.A.M. (Together Everyone Achieves More)

The next Hillcrest neighborhood clean-up is scheduled for Saturday, April, 12 from 9:00 a.m. to noon. The meeting place will be just south of University and Park Blvd in front of the Egyptian Building. Thanks to the volunteer efforts of the Hillcrest Town Council and Hillcrest Centennial, the last clean-up in January was a huge success. This month, Debris Box has volunteered their dumpster and hauling services. We look forward to partnering with the community for another successful event. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Tim Gahagan at 619-315-7058.





### 30<sup>th</sup> STREET TRANSMISSION CORRIDOR

Work is finally complete on the remaining segment of a 138kV transmission line from Switzer Canyon south to an SDG&E substation at 26<sup>th</sup> and L Street. This project is also a record holder – the longest stretch of transmission line ever undergrounded in the City – about 3.6 miles extending from University Avenue (phase 1) to the substation south of the SR 94 freeway. When the line was energized, there was no longer a need for the Switzer Canyon Pole.

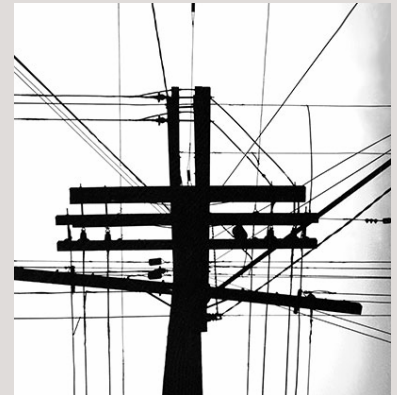


The pole was used to transition the underground transmission line from 30<sup>th</sup> Street and Lincoln Avenue to the above-ground transmission line from the pole to 26<sup>th</sup> and L Street. Now that the transmission line south of the pole has been undergrounded, the pole could be removed. I joined City Undergrounding and SDG&E staff in late February to witness the removal of the first of two segments using a large crane.

### MEADE AVENUE UNDERGROUNDING PROJECT (ALMOST) COMPLETE

The City of San Diego and SDG&E will soon be completing the single largest distribution undergrounding project in the City (in terms of cost, length and number of customers). Although the AT&T telephone lines are still up, I am working with the City and AT&T to expedite this part of the project.

Meade Avenue undergrounding extends nearly 5.5 miles from New Jersey Street to 44<sup>th</sup> Street. There were more than 250 private properties converted, 90 streetlights, more than 100 curb ramps and over 80 street trees planted. Slurry sealing has been done curb to curb in several areas and a significant amount will be resurfaced curb to curb later this year. Total project cost was close to \$14 million with an estimated 5 years to take the project from concept to completion. A great thanks to the City's Undergrounding Program Manager Nathan Bruner for all the help during the course of the project providing information and helping to resolve issues with neighbors along the project.



## TASTE OF UPTOWN

This year's annual Taste of Uptown event is going to be held on April 19, 2008. Over 40 restaurants are participating this year and will be offering delectable samplings of an array of dishes. This event is organized by the Hillcrest Business Improvement Association. You can find out more information on participating restaurants, ticket sales and prices on their website at: <http://hillcrestbusinessassociation.com>.



## EARTH DAY 2008

On April 20, 2008, San Diego Earth Works will be hosting the 19<sup>th</sup> annual EarthFair in Balboa Park from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.. Earth Fair is the largest **free** annual environmental fair in the world and each year draws around 60,000 visitors.



Produced by 400 volunteers, EarthFair features more than 200 exhibitors; special theme areas; a Food Pavilion; a special Kids' Activity Area; five entertainment venues featuring music, song, and story telling; the Children's Earth Parade and Alternative Fuel Vehicle Parade and Show.

## NORMAL HEIGHTS PARKLAND INCREASES

The City recently demolished the former Becera property just north of Ward Canyon Neighborhood Park to add an additional ¼ acre of new parkland. This brings the park footprint to just over 25.4 acres. The Becera family sold their property to the City in 2006 and were present when contractors demolished the house and adjacent retaining wall in just two days. The Normal Heights community has been looking at different uses for that area of the park for many years and has discussed proposals that include a community garden, additional turf and trees for passive use, and skate park. Now that we have a better idea of what the raw land looks like, the Adams Avenue Recreation Council are accepting suggestions for temporary and permanent uses for the new locations. The Council meets the fourth Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at the Adams Recreation Center at 3491 Adams Avenue.



## TALMADGE UNDERGROUNDING UPDATE: BLOCK 3FF

The cable phase of undergrounding work has begun, which involves technicians placing new utility lines in the new conduits so that the new lines can be “energized” and brought into service. Once the new system has been energized, the process to “cut over” customers from overhead to underground will begin. Undergrounding staff anticipates this process will move very swiftly and it is not nearly as disruptive or distracting as the trenching work. Crews currently estimate that the new lines will be energized by October of this year, at which time customer cut-overs can begin.

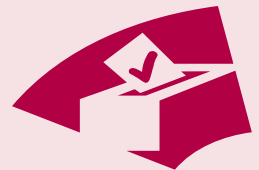
There are still approximately 180 residents in Project Block 3FF who have not made the necessary corrections to their services or properties. Most of these corrections are minor; however, they need to be completed before undergrounding staff can cut these customers over to the new underground system. Crews cannot remove *any* overhead wires until *all* customers have been cut over to the new underground system. If you need to make a correction in order to pass final inspection, you will receive a door hanger from a City inspector. On the door hanger will be a description of the problem. Please do not delay in contacting the person whose name and phone number appear on that door hanger so that the problem can be resolved. Many of you have already received these notices.

Please e-mail or call my office or Senior Public Information Officer for the Utilities Undergrounding Program, Carol Drummond who can be reached at (619) 533-3872, if you are not satisfied or pleased with the work that was done on your property or your street. Also, please do not attempt to make corrections, adjustments or improvements yourself. My office along with undergrounding staff with you on reaching a solution or creating an outcome that meets your needs as well as ours in this process. Crews will not be able to “switch you over” to the new underground system if any modifications were done to the undergrounding staff’s work. If you are unsure about the status of your property or your street, please call Carol Drummond and she will share current project information.

## KENSINGTON-TALMADGE PLANNING COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

On March 12, 2008, the Kensington-Talmadge Planning Committee (KTPC) held their annual board elections. I want thank the outgoing members for their outstanding volunteer efforts and leadership during their tenure on the KTPC. Each outgoing member has dedicated countless hours toward improving the Kensington and Talmadge communities; their achievements in building a sense of pride in the community are endless. This years outgoing members are: Fred Lindahl, Chair; Erich Blasé, Secretary and Treasurer; Roger Utt, Founding Board Member; Allan Frostrom, 11-year Board Member; Daniele Laman, 8-year Board Member; Guy Hanford, 2-year Board Member; and John Hileman, 2-year Board Member.

The newly elected board members are: Robert Coffin, Jeri Dilno, John Garrison, Gail Greer, Sherry Hopwood, Shauna Pribyl and Elayne Summers.



## CITY HEIGHTS AREA PLANNING COMMITTEE ELECTIONS



On March 3, 2008, elections were held for the City Heights Area Planning Committee. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to our outgoing members this year: Stefanie Harris and Cassandra Lewis-Beevers; you all have done great services to your communities and I hope to continue see you volunteering in City Heights! I would like to congratulate and welcome two new community members to the City Heights Area Planning Committee: William Closson and Jeanette Neely; I look forward to working with you. Also, I would like to congratulate eight incumbents who were re-elected to serve on the City Heights Area Planning Committee: Heather Bentley, Russ Connelly, Mark Kassab, Ahmed

Malinomar, Kasra Movahedi, David Nelson, Jessie Sergeant, and Patty Vaccariello; your continued services are greatly appreciated!



## LIGHT UP THE HEIGHTS!

On Thursday, March 27, Mayor Jerry Sanders and I held a press conference at the Mid-City Division Police Station in City Heights to unveil 40 locations for new street lights. Many of these light locations were chosen by the San Diego Police Department's patrol officers who noticed that darker areas had higher crime rates. By using a combination of money from Price Charities and CDBG, we were able to fund these new lights. Joining us were Robert Price, President of Price Charities, Executive Assistant Police Chief David Ramirez, Mid-City Division Captain Guy Swanger, Lieutenant Monica Kaiser, and long-time City Heights activist Maria Cortez. Street lighting has been one of my top infrastructure priorities throughout my two terms in office and we have installed 176 street lights in City Heights since 2001. I'm looking forward to later this year when we can flip the switch on these lights.



## WARD CANYON PARK INSTALLATION

On March 28, I was joined by the Adams Recreation Council and Normal Heights residents and business owners for the unveiling of the new Ward Canyon Neighborhood Park signs near the tot lot at 40<sup>th</sup> Street and Adams Avenue. The park was recently renamed as Ward Canyon Neighborhood park by a community effort spearheaded by Suzanne Ledebouer who spent many hours researching the Ward name and included her findings in an extensive article on the history of Normal Heights published in the *Journal of San Diego History*. She then visited many community groups to present the idea and garner their support. The proposal was reviewed by the Park and Recreation Department with unanimous support by the Adams Avenue Recreation Council and the Park and Recreation Board.

Ward Canyon Neighborhood Park is named to commemorate three historical individuals of the 1920s, one a truck farmer, "Old Man Ward", the other a prominent local elected official, judge and state representative, Martin Luther Ward; and Simon Lett Ward, County Surveyor and a member of the Board of Public Works. The park also recognizes the Ward Canyon and Ward Road that are buried under the park footprint.





# District Three Neighborhood Meetings

## City Heights

Azalea Park Neighborhood Association: Meets the second Tuesday of the month at 2596 Violet Street at 6:30pm. Contact: [info@azaleapark.org](mailto:info@azaleapark.org).

Cherokee Point Neighborhood Association: Meets the fourth Wednesday at 6:30pm, Cherokee Point Elementary School, 3735 38th Street. Contact: (619) 285-1611.

City Heights Community Development Corporation: Meets the second Thursday of each month at 6pm at 4283 El Cajon Boulevard. Contact: (619) 584-1535.

Fairmount Park Neighborhood Association: Meets the third Thursday of the month at 3850 Westgate Place at 6:30pm. Contact: [FairmountPark92105@yahoo.com](mailto:FairmountPark92105@yahoo.com).

Mid-City Rotary Club: Meets every Tuesday of each month at 5:30pm at the Pearson Ford Regional Transportation Center, 4001 El Cajon Blvd.

Contact: [Eveardo.Aguilar@sdcountry.ca.gov](mailto:Eveardo.Aguilar@sdcountry.ca.gov)

South Castle Neighborhood Association: Meets the third Tuesday of each month at 6:00pm at Flo-Jo Elementary, 4271 Myrtle Avenue. Contact: (619) 284-3118.

Swan Canyon: Meets the third Wednesday of the month at 3120 Euclid Avenue at 6:30 p.m.

Contact: [rebecca@bairfinancial.com](mailto:rebecca@bairfinancial.com).

Teralta Concerned Citizens Association: Meets every 4th Monday of the month at 6:30pm at the Fairmount Community Church, 4100 Fairmount Avenue.

Contact: (619)584-2360

Teralta West Neighborhood Alliance: Meets the first Thursday of the month at 4283 El Cajon Blvd. at 6:00pm. Contact: (619) 283-7815.

## Golden Hill

Greater Golden Hill Community Development Corporation (GGHCDC): Meetings are held the third Thursday of each month at the Moose Lodge, 1648 30th Street, beginning at 6:30pm. Contact: (619) 696-9992.

## Kensington

The Kensington/Talmadge Community Association: meets every third Wednesday at the Kensington Community Church, 4773 Marlborough Drive, beginning at 7pm. (dinner for a reasonable price is served prior)

## Normal Heights

Normal Heights Cultural Council: Meets the third Thursday of each month from 6:00pm-7:30pm at 4649 Hawley Boulevard.

## North Park

Altadena Neighborhood Association: Board meetings are the first Wednesday of the month at Santos Coffee at Thorn and 32nd streets. Contact: (619) 280-6662.

Burlingame Neighborhood Association: Meets the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00pm at different locations each month. Contact: [dbyrne4bna@cox.net](mailto:dbyrne4bna@cox.net).

North Park Community Association: Meets the fourth Wednesday of each month. Contact: [info@northparksd.org](mailto:info@northparksd.org)

## South Park

The South Park Action Council: Meetings are held quarterly. For information or future meeting dates, e-mail Co-Chairs: Samantha Keenan at [samkeen@cox.net](mailto:samkeen@cox.net) or Connie McDonough at [conniemcdonough@cox.net](mailto:conniemcdonough@cox.net).

## Talmadge

The Kensington/Talmadge Community Association (see Kensington)

The Talmadge Community Council (TCC): Meets every third Tuesday at 4725 Lucille Drive beginning at 6:30pm.

## University Heights

The University Heights Community Development Corporation (CDC): Meets on the first Wednesday of the month at the CDC office located at 4452 Park Blvd, Suite 104, at 6:30pm.

The University Heights Crime Watch and Neighborhood Association: Meets on the first Thursday of the month at Alice Birney School Auditorium, 4345 Campus Avenue. Crime Watch at 6:30pm; UHNA at 7:00pm.

## Uptown

Bankers Hill/Park West Community Association: meets on the 4th Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm at St. Paul's Community Care Center located at 328 Maple Street. Entry is through the parking lot on the west side of the building. Contact: [EucalyptusAlert@aol.com](mailto:EucalyptusAlert@aol.com)

Hillcrest Town Council: meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month from 6:30—8:30pm at Joyce Beers Community Center, 1230 Cleveland Avenue, Uptown District Shopping Center next to Aladdin Restaurant. Contact: (619) 260-1929 or [www.hillcresttowncouncil.com](http://www.hillcresttowncouncil.com).

# District Three

## Community Meetings & Staff Information

### **MONTHLY BUSINESS ASSOCIATION MEETINGS**

#### **Adams Avenue Business Association**

4649 Hawley Boulevard Meets the first Tuesday of the month, 7:30 a.m. Contact: 619/282-7329.

#### **City Heights Business Association**

Board meetings: second Wednesday of every month at 8 a.m. at the Metro Career Center Community Room, 3910 University Avenue. Phone: 619/516-2282.

#### **El Cajon Blvd. Business Improvement Association**

3727 El Cajon Boulevard Meets the third Thursday of the month, 11:30 a.m. Contact: 619/283-3608.

#### **Hillcrest Association**

Joyce Beers Community Center, 1230 Cleveland Ave. in the Uptown District Meets the second Tuesday of the month, 5:00 p.m. Contact: 619/299-3330.

#### **North Park Main Street**

3076 University Avenue Meets the second Wednesday of the month, 7:30 a.m. Contact: 619/294-2501.

### **MONTHLY REDEVELOPMENT MEETINGS**

#### **North Park Project Area Committee**

California Nat'l Bank, 3180 University Ave., 2nd Floor Meets the second Tuesday of the month, 6:00 p.m. Contact: Dawn Griffin, Chair, at queenphenix@msn.com.

#### **City Heights Project Area Committee**

Metro Career Center, Community Room, 3910 University Ave. Meets the second Monday of the month, 6 p.m. Contact: Karen Bucey, Chair, 619/957-5818.

### **DISTRICT THREE STAFF**

**Denise Price**, Chief of Staff.

**Dale Kelly Bankhead**, Committee Consultant to the Committee on Budget and Finance. Communications Director; LGBT community liaison; HIV/AIDS issues.

**Amy Benjamin**, Council Representative to Uptown and Hillcrest. Policy issues include housing, canyon preservation, citywide land use and planning, solid waste/recycling. Staff to SANDAG Regional Planning and Housing committees.

**April Chesebro**, Council Representative to Kensington, Talmadge South Park/Golden Hill and University Heights; Constituent Services Representative to North Park, Normal Heights, South Park and Golden Hill; African-American community liaison; Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) and senior issues; Resolution/Proclamation Coordinator.

**Pam Ison**, Council Representative to City Heights; liaison to Asian/Pacific Islander community. Policy issues include citywide redevelopment; business and downtown issues; school liaison and education issues; homeless, women's, youth and health issues; parks and recreation; Chargers/Qualcomm Stadium; Community Development Block Grants (CDBG); newsletter; webpage.

**Cheli Mohamed**, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Atkins and Chief of Staff Denise Price.

**Kim Nguyen**, Council Representative to City Heights; Constituent Services Representative to Uptown: liaison to Vietnamese-American Community and Gang Commission.

**Monica Pelaez**, Press Secretary/Council Representative to North Park and Normal Heights; liaison to the Latino community; Police Department liaison and public safety issues; Fire and Life Safety Services liaison; Council Docket Coordinator; newsletter.

**Jeffery Tom**, Council Representative to Balboa Park. Staff to Metropolitan Transit System and BID Council; Policy issues include Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT), libraries, infrastructure, arts and culture, energy, telecommunications, water & sewer issues.

### **MONTHLY DISTRICT THREE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

#### **Balboa Park Committee**

Santa Fe Room of the Balboa Park Club (Off Presidents Way west of Park Blvd.). Meets the first Thursday of the month, 6:30 p.m. Contact: Vicki Granowitz, Chair: 619/584-1203 or vdgwrl@aol.com.

#### **City Heights Area Planning Committee**

Metro Career Center, Community Room, 3910 University Avenue. Meets the first Monday of the month, 6:30 p.m.

Contact: Jim Varnadore, Chair, 619/280-3910.

#### **Greater Golden Hill Planning Committee (GGHPC)**

Balboa Golf Course Clubhouse, Golden Hill. Meets the second Wednesday of the month, 6:30 p.m. or the city staff member at 619/533-5284.

Contact: Chris Blatt, Chair, csblatt@exateck.com

#### **Greater North Park Community Planning Committee**

North Park Christian Fellowship, Second Floor, 2901 North Park Way. Meets the third Tuesday of the month, 6:30 p.m.

Contact: Rob Steppke, Chair, arebeestep@netzero.net.

#### **Kensington/Talmadge Planning Group**

Kensington Community Church, 4773 Marlborough Drive Meets the second Wednesday of the month, 6:30 p.m.

Contact: Fred Lindahl, Chair, 619/287-3157.

#### **Normal Heights Community Planning Group**

4649 Hawley Boulevard. Meets the first Tuesday of the month, 6:00 p.m.

Contact: Jim Baross, Chair, JimBaross@cox.net.

#### **Uptown Planners**

Joyce Beers Community Center, 1230 Cleveland Ave. in the Uptown District. Meets the first Tuesday of the month, 6:30 p.m.

Contact: Leo Wilson, Chair, 619/574-0109.



## Council District 3 Citizen Survey April 2008

1. **Would you say you are Very Satisfied, Satisfied, Dissatisfied, or Very Dissatisfied with your overall quality of life in San Diego?**

Very Satisfied      Satisfied      Dissatisfied      Very Dissatisfied

2. **Would you say you are Very Satisfied, Satisfied, Dissatisfied, or Very Dissatisfied with your overall satisfaction with the services provided by the City of San Diego?**

Very Satisfied      Satisfied      Dissatisfied      Very Dissatisfied

3. **When you think of City services provided to San Diego residents, which are more important to you than others. Using a scale where 5 means extremely important and 1 means not important, please rank each service.**

	Extremely Important			Not Important	
a. Parks and recreation areas	5	4	3	2	1
b. Police services	5	4	3	2	1
c. Fire services	5	4	3	2	1
d. Library services	5	4	3	2	1
e. Trash and Recycling Collection	5	4	3	2	1
f. Traffic flow on roadways	5	4	3	2	1
g. Maintenance of streets and sidewalks	5	4	3	2	1
h. Quality of drinking water	5	4	3	2	1
i. Homeless Services	5	4	3	2	1
j. Affordable Housing	5	4	3	2	1
k. Planning and Zoning	5	4	3	2	1

3. **The City of San Diego has a Web Site. In the last six months, have you gone on-line and viewed the City's Web Site?**

Yes      No

4. **If "yes", were you satisfied with the Web Site?**

Yes      No

5. **Why or why not?** \_\_\_\_\_

6. **The District 3 council office also has a Web site. In the last six months, have you gone on-line and viewed the Council Office's Web Site?**

Yes      No

7. **If "yes", were you satisfied with the Web Site?**

Yes      No

8. Why or why not? \_\_\_\_\_

9. The City of San Diego's 2009 budget is about to be debated and discussed. How would you prioritize the following 12 issues in next year's budget? (Please assign each issue an individual ranking of 1 through 12, with 1 being your top priority.)

- \_\_\_ Parks and recreation areas
- \_\_\_ Police services
- \_\_\_ Fire services
- \_\_\_ Library services
- \_\_\_ Trash and Recycling Collection
- \_\_\_ Traffic flow on roadways
- \_\_\_ Maintenance of streets and sidewalks
- \_\_\_ Quality of drinking water
- \_\_\_ Homeless Services
- \_\_\_ Affordable Housing
- \_\_\_ Planning and Zoning
- \_\_\_ Other

10. Which best identifies your opinion about the City of San Diego budget:

\_\_\_\_\_ Maintaining and improving City services should be the City's priority, even if that means increasing revenue to pay for them.

\_\_\_\_\_ Maintain City expenditures at the current level, even if existing service levels need to be cut.

11. Is there anything else you would like to add?

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***Thank you for sharing your thoughts with me today.***

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If you have a specific concern and would like my office to contact you directly, please complete the section below.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Please add my name to your e-mail list so that I may receive the District 3 newsletter and periodic e-mail updates.